

In the Claims:

Replace the indicated claims with:

- b3
1. (Currently Amended) An off-press plate-making apparatus comprising:
 - means for applying on a substrate a [continuous] uniform image-recording layer which is capable of forming a lithographic image upon exposure to heat or light and optional processing; and
 - means for removing the lithographic image from the substrate.
 2. (Original) An off-press plate-making apparatus according to claim 1 which further comprises:
 - means for exposing the image-recording layer to heat or light; and,
optionally,
 - means for processing the exposed image-recording layer.
 3. (Currently Amended) [A plate-making] An off-press plate-making apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the means for applying a continuous image-recording layer on a substrate comprise a spray nozzle or an ink-jet nozzle for applying a coating solution on the substrate.
 4. (Currently Amended) [A plate-making] An off-press plate-making apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the means for removing the lithographic image from the substrate comprise a spray nozzle or an ink-jet nozzle for applying a cleaning liquid on the substrate.
 5. (Currently Amended) [A plate-making] An off-press plate-making apparatus according to claim 1 [further comprising] wherein the means for removing the lithographic image from the substrate further comprises a means for preparing an emulsion by mixing an organic liquid with an aqueous liquid.

6. (Currently Amended) [A plate-making] An off-press plate-making apparatus according to claim 1 [further comprising] wherein the means for removing the lithographic image from the substrate further comprises a means for separating an emulsion in an organic phase and an aqueous phase.

7. (Currently Amended) A printing system comprising a lithographic printing press and [a plate-making] an off-press plate-making apparatus according to claim 1.

8. (Currently Amended) A printing system according to claim 7 wherein the [plate-making] off-press plate-making apparatus is mechanically coupled to the printing press by plate-loading means for transferring a printing plate precursor or a printing master from the plate-making apparatus to the printing press and/or by plate-unloading means for transferring a printing master from the printing press to the plate-making apparatus.

9. (Original) A printing system according to claim 8 wherein the printing press is a multi-color printing press and wherein the plate-loading means and/or the plate-unloading means comprise a stacking apparatus.

10. (Currently Amended) A printing system according to claim 9 wherein the stacking apparatus is integrated in the [plate-making] off-press plate-making apparatus.